

**Article 5. Agricultural Pest Control Adviser Licenses**  
**Sections 6550-6557**

**6550. Minimum Qualifications.**

(a) A person who has never held an agricultural pest control adviser license shall meet the following minimum qualifications:

(1) Have either a bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.) in the agricultural sciences, biological sciences, or pest management; or

(2) Have 45 semester units (67.5 quarter units) of college-level curricula in the physical and biological sciences, crop health, pest management systems and methods, and production systems topic areas plus 24 months of technical experience as follows:

(A) working for a licensed agricultural pest control adviser;

(B) working for a pest management specialist including, but not limited to, a farm adviser, certified commercial applicator, certified private applicator, or licensed pest control dealer;

(C) a field sweeper, field checker or scout;

(D) a participant in field or laboratory research activities relating to pest control;

(E) a participant in agricultural pest control/management activities for a federal, state, or county entity;

(F) a qualified applicator licensee pursuant to Division 6, Chapter 8, commencing with section 12201, Food and Agricultural Code, employed by a licensed pest control business except that no more than 12 months experience solely in the categories specified in subsections 6530(b) and (k) shall be used;

(G) an authorized licensee listed on a structural pest control operator license except that no more than 12 months experience as a licensed structural pest control operator shall be used; or

(H) a farm operator involved in agricultural pest control/management activities.

(3) The college-level curricula specified in (a)(1) and (a)(2) shall include at least 45 semester units (67.5 quarter units) as shown in the following table:

**6550. Minimum Qualifications., continued**  
**(a) (3) continued**

| Area of Study  | Semester Units | Quarter Units |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| Physical and biological sciences such as introduction to inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, plant biology, or botany, ecology, soils, irrigation, genetics, plant physiology, entomology, and zoology | 15             | 22.5          |
| Crop health such as vegetative management or weeds, plant pathology, agricultural/economic entomology, plant nutrition or fertility, nematology, and vertebrate management   | 12             | 18            |
| Pest management systems and methods, with at least one course in pest management systems and one course in pest management methods   | 9              | 13.5          |
| Pest management methods topics such as agricultural chemical applications, properties of pesticides, mode of action of agricultural chemicals, toxicology, environmental impact of pesticides, and biological control    |                |               |
| Pest management systems topics such as integrated pest management, alternative cropping systems, and sustainable agricultural systems  |                |               |
| Production systems such as environmental horticulture, horticulture, ornamental horticulture, forestry, agronomy, crop science, vegetable crops, animal science, or other production systems                             | 9              | 13.5          |
| Total Units Required   | 45             | 67.5          |

(c) The applicant shall submit to the Director an official transcript verifying the courses completed and the degrees granted to the applicant. In addition, an applicant qualifying pursuant to (a)(2) or shall submit employment records, a statement from an employer, or other proof of technical experience to the Director.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11456, 12005 and 12024, Food and Agricultural Code.  
Reference: Section 12024, Food and Agricultural Code.

**6551. Licensing for Public Agencies.**

Except as specifically exempted in section 12001 of the Food and Agricultural Code, any person employed by any federal, state, county, or local public agency who provides to that federal, state, county, or local public agency recommendations on any agricultural use must possess a valid agricultural pest control adviser license issued by the Director.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11456 and 12005, Food and Agricultural Code.  
Reference: Sections 11501 and 12001, Food and Agricultural Code.

**6552. Continued Education Requirements.**

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407, 12005 and 12024, Food and Agricultural Code.  
Reference: Sections 11501 and 12024, Food and Agricultural Code.

**6554. Regional Accreditation Committee.**

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407, 12005 and 12024, Food and Agricultural Code.  
Reference: Sections 11501 and 12024, Food and Agricultural Code.

**6556. Recommendations.**

In addition to the requirement of Section 12003 of the Food and Agricultural Code, each recommendation shall include:

- (a) Total acreage or units to be treated;
  - (b) Concentration and volume per acre or other units;
  - (c) Worker reentry interval, if one has been established; preharvest or preslaughter interval; and label restrictions on use or disposition of the treated commodity, by-products or treated area;
  - (d) Criteria used for determining the need for the recommended treatment; and
  - (e) Certification that alternatives and mitigation measures that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impact on the environment have been considered and, if feasible, adopted.
- In addition, the recommendation shall designate the pest by accepted common name.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11456, 12003 and 12005, Food and Agricultural Code.  
Reference: Section 12003, Food and Agricultural Code.

**6557. Advisories for Groundwater Protection. Repealed**

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11456, 12976, 13145, 14005, 14006 and 14102, Food and Agricultural Code.  
Reference: Sections 11501, 13145 and 14006, Food and Agricultural Code

**Article 6. Pesticide Dealer Licenses**  
**Sections 6560-6574**

**6560. Supervision.**

(a) Each licensed pesticide dealer shall have and maintain at the principal office and at each branch location a designated agent to actively supervise all operations conducted by the location.

(b) The designated agent shall be a person who has passed the laws and regulations examination; or who holds a valid agricultural pest control adviser license, pest control aircraft pilot certificate, or is a qualified applicator licensee.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11456 and 12111, Food and Agricultural Code.  
Reference: Sections 11501 and 12103, Food and Agricultural Code.

**6562. Dealer Records and Sales Reporting.**

(a) Each licensed pesticide dealer shall prepare and maintain records of all pesticides sold or delivered, except for pesticides labeled only for home use. These records shall include the following:

- (1) The purchaser's name and address;
- (2) The product purchased, and the amount;
- (3) The date of purchase;

(4) The operator identification number(s) specified in Section 6622 on the invoice, or a statement on the invoice indicating that the purchaser was not required to obtain an operator identification number pursuant to Section 6622;

(5) A copy of an agricultural pest control adviser's written recommendation, or the following statement (or a substantially similar statement) on the invoice or delivery slip supplied to the customer:

No recommendation has been made by, or provided to, the seller concerning the use of the pesticide covered by this invoice; and

(6) The location where the pesticide was delivered, including the name of the person who, or business which, received the shipment, if the dealer delivered the pesticide.

(b) The records shall be maintained at the sales office for two years. These records shall be produced for inspection, by purchaser name, upon request by the director or agricultural commissioner.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11456, 12111, 12976 and 13145, Food and Agricultural Code.  
Reference: Sections 11501, 12110 and 13145, Food and Agricultural Code.

**6564. Appropriate Products.**

All persons engaged in business as licensed pesticide dealers shall:

(a) Sell or deliver a pesticide for which a recommendation has been provided to him or written by any person employed by him only when the pesticide labeling corresponds to the recommendation; and

(b) Not knowingly sell or deliver a pesticide for use not shown in the labeling, or when any condition of use shown in the labeling cannot be complied with.